

§ 1025.3

policy of the Commission that adjudicative proceedings shall be conducted expeditiously and with due regard to the rights and interests of all persons affected and in locations chosen with due regard to the convenience of all parties. Therefore, the Presiding Officer and all parties shall make every effort at each stage of any proceedings to avoid unnecessary delay.

§ 1025.3 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) *Application* means an *ex parte* request by a party for an order that may be granted or denied without opportunity for response by any other party.

(b) *Commission* means the Consumer Product Safety Commission or a quorum thereof.

(c) *Commissioner* means a Commissioner of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(d) *Complaint Counsel* means counsel for the Commission's staff.

(e) *Motion* means a request by a party for a ruling or order that may be granted or denied only after opportunity for responses by all other parties.

(f) *Party* means any named person or any intervenor in any proceedings governed by these Rules.

(g) *Person* means any individual, partnership, corporation, unincorporated association, public or private organization, or a federal, state or municipal governmental entity.

(h) *Petition* means a written request, addressed to the Commission or the Presiding Officer, for some affirmative action.

(i) *Presiding Officer* means a person who conducts any adjudicative proceedings under this part, and may include an administrative law judge qualified under Title 5, United States Code, section 3105, but shall not include a Commissioner.

(j) *Respondent* means any person against whom a complaint has been issued.

(k) *Secretary* means the Secretary of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

(l) *Staff* means the staff of the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

Additional definitions relating to prohibited communications are in § 1025.68.

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Subpart B—Pleadings, Form, Execution, Service of Documents

§ 1025.11 Commencement of proceedings.

(a) *Notice of institution of enforcement proceedings.* Any adjudicative proceedings under this part shall be commenced by the issuance of a complaint, authorized by the Commission, and signed by the Associate Executive Director for Compliance and Enforcement.

(b) *Form and content of complaint.* The complaint shall contain the following:

(1) A statement of the legal authority for instituting the proceedings, including the specific sections of statutes, rules and regulations involved in each allegation.

(2) Identification of each respondent or class of respondents.

(3) A clear and concise statement of the charges, sufficient to inform each respondent with reasonable definiteness of the factual basis or bases of the allegations of violation or hazard. A list and summary of documentary evidence supporting the charges shall be attached.

(4) A request for the relief which the staff believes is in the public interest.

(c) *Notice to the public.* Once issued, the complaint shall be submitted without delay to the FEDERAL REGISTER for publication.

§ 1025.12 Answer.

(a) *Time for filing.* A respondent shall have twenty (20) days after service of a complaint to file an answer.

(b) *Contents of answer.* The answer shall contain the following:

(1) A specific admission or denial of each allegation in the complaint. If a respondent is without knowledge or information sufficient to form a belief as to the truth of an allegation, the respondent shall so state. Such statement shall have the effect of a denial. Allegations that are not denied shall be deemed to have been admitted.

(2) A concise statement of the factual or legal defenses to each allegation of the complaint.

(c) *Default.* Failure of a respondent to file an answer within the time provided, unless extended, shall constitute